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Time and Again

by Gerald Zipper

She married the first time
wanting to lie in bed Sundays in the streaming sun
make casual love in the afternoon
but she came to despise him
he was stingy selfish and thoughtless
she was caring and dreamy
next she married a man of brilliance
a much admired man
but small flaws grow to crevasses
next she married a dull and detached man
easy to loathe
needing to escape
she married again
in a cold sweat
less from lust and more from hope
from the despair of loneliness
waiting for the cold phone to ring on an empty Sunday
waiting in desperation on her empty sun-covered bed.



Photograph (detail) by Joel Kendall

